

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-03 SS-14 /026 W

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P 071014Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1063

C O N F I D E N T I A L SOFIA 0755

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

LIMDIS

FOR EUR/EE - AMBASSADOR HERZ

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, EAGR, PFOR, BU

SUBJECT: SECRETARY BUTZ VISIT

REF: SOFIA 0751

1. ALTHOUGH MFA PROTOCOL IS STILL BLEARY-EYED FROM BCP CONGRESS, BELIEVE THERE IS NO QUESTION BUT THAT THEY WILL HANDLE ALL THE ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS WITH THEIR CUSTOMARY STYLE. IT IS OBVIOUS GOB LEADERSHIP RATES THE VISIT QUITE HIGHLY (SEE REFTEL) AND WILL GO ALL OUT. THEREFORE WOULD LIKE TO TAKE COUNSEL WITH YOU ON WHAT, FOR OUR PART, WE SHOULD SEEK TO ACCOMPLISH, ASIDE FROM COMMERCIAL ASPECTS.

2. IN VIEW OF YOUR LAST CONVERSATION WITH ZHIVKOV, I DO NOT BELIEVE BUTZ NEEDS DWELL TOO LONG ON THE DIVIDED FAMILY ISSUE, BUT THINK HE SHOULD STATE IT IS AN IMPORTANT IRRITANT IN OUR RELATIONS. HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF INFORMATION CONTAINED PARA 2 OF PARIS 10033, I BELIEVE SECRETARY BUTZ SPECIFICALLY SHOULD RAISE THE COLLINS CASE WITH ZHIVKOV, OR IF THAT INTERVIEW DOES NOT EVENTUATE, WITH MLADENOV. ALTHOUGH IT IS ONLY ONE CASE, IT IS A PARTICULARLY EGREGIOUS ONE. RAISING IT BECOMES SYMBOLIC OF INTEREST AT THE SENIOR LEVELS

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OF USG IN ALL SUCH CASES AND OUR CONTINUING CONCERN

WITH HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS GENERALLY.

3. TENDENTIOUS COMMENTARY ON THE US WAS ABSENT FROM ZHIVKOV'S REPORT TO THE CONGRESS, BUT CONTINUES AT ITS CUSTOMARY LEVEL IN THE MEDIA. I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE ADVANTAGEIOUS IF SECRETARY BUTZ REFERRED, AS YOU DID IN YOUR LAST CONVERSATION WITH ZHIVKOV, TO ZHIVKOV'S STATEMENT REGARDING MEDIA CRITICISM TO DEPUTY SECRETARY INGERSOLL, AND EXPRESS SURPRISE THAT USG HAS NOTED NO PARTICULAR CHANGE SINCE THAT TIME.

4. FINALLY, WHILE IT WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE FOR BUTZ TO GET INTO ANYTHING LIKE A FULL-DRESS DISCUSSION OF CSCE, I BELIEVE THERE WOULD BE NO HARM IN HIS TAKING NOTE OF THE ABSENCE OF AMERICAN AND OTHER WESTERN NEWSPAPERS AT HIS HOTEL.

5. WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE YOUR VIEWS ON THE ABOVE, AND ANY SUGGESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE. ALSO, IT WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL TO US IF EUR/EE WOULD POUCH TO US NOW THE BRIEFING MATERIALS THEY PREPARED FOR SECRETARY BUTZ. IN THE MEANTIME LAURIE JOINS ME IN HEARTIEST (IF A DAY LATE) ANNIVERSARY GOOD WISHES TO YOU AND ELISABETH.  
FELDMAN

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## Message Attributes

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